Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 ROME 04179 151506Z ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IOE-00 EUR-12 SS-15 NSC-05 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /046 W

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P 151420MAR 77 FM AMEMBASSY ROME TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3352

UNCLAS ROME 4179

FODAG

E.O. 11652 N/A TAGS: FAO

SUBJ: REQUEST THAT MRS. LILLIAN CARTER AGREE TO THE ISSUANCE OF AN FAO CERES MEDAL BEARING HER PORTRAIT

1) THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF FAO ASKED THE EMBASSY TO CONVEY TO MRS. LILLIAN CARTER A REQUEST THAT SHE PERMIT FAO TO ISSUE A CERES MEDAL BEARING HER PORTRAIT. THESE MEDALS, BEARING THE LIKENESSES OF OUTSTANDING WOMEN, ARE COLLECTED BY NUMISMATISTS AND HUMANITARIANS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD AND THE PROCEEDS ARE USED TO FURTHER THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT OF PEOPLE IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND OTHER

AMERICANS WHO HAVE APPEARED ON CERES MEDALS ARE CORETTA SCOTT KING, MARGARET MEAD, SHIRLEY TEMPLE BLACK, AND GLORIA STEINEM. THE PORTRAIT OF MRS. CARTER WOULD BE COMMISSIONED TO A YOUNG AMERICAN SCULPTOR LIVING IN ROME AND THE MEDAL WOULD BE STRUCK IN 50 MILLIMETERS DIAMETER IN STERLING SILVER AND IN 28 MILLIMETERS DIAMETER IN 18 KARAT GOLD. HER SUGGESTIONS WOULD BE APPRECIATED ON A THEME TO BE DEVELOPED ON THE BACK OF THE MEDAL RELATING TO HER WORK, PARTICULARLY IN RURAL AREAS, OR A SPECIAL COMMEMORATIVE EVENT. MRS. CARTER WILL ALSO BE ASKED TO SELECT PHOTOGRAPHS FROM WHICH THE ARTIST CAN WORK. UNCLASSIFIED

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IT GENERALLY TAKES SEVERAL MONTHS TO PREPARE THE MEDALLION AND AN ANNOUNCEMENT IS MADE ONLY WHEN IT IS READY FOR SALE. LETTER AND PAMPHTET ON CERES PROGRAM ARE BEING FORWARDED BY POUCH.

2) DIRECTOR-GENERAL SAOUMA MADE HIS APPROACH TO THE

EMBASSY ON THIS SUBJECT BY WAY OF A PERSONAL LETTER TO AMBASSADOR GARDNER. IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT SAOUMA WILL BE IN WASHINGTON MARCH 20 TO 23, AND MAY WELL MENTION THIS REQUEST DURING HIS VISIT. DEPARTMENT MAY FIND THIS BACKGROUND INFORMATION USEFUL.BEAUDRY

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^{***} Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

^{***} Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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TAGS: AWRD, PORG, FAO, (CARTER, LILLIAN)

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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released **US** Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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